# LINEAR ALGEBRA



MATLAB

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# Problem I: Solving linear systems

# Code: I\_solving\_poisson.m

# 1. Getting started.

Run the provided code. Observe that it has the following form:

- A square matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ ,  $N = n^2$ , with a special structure is formed (so-called *Poisson matrix*).
- A right-hand-side b with a special structure is formed (so-called *forcing*).
- There are several different ways to solve the system Ax = b with built-in MATLAB routines which can be uncommented.
- The solution x is a vector containing the solution to the so-called (discrete) Poisson equation. Reshaping x into a matrix  $XX \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and plotting the enries of XX as a surface gives (an approximation) to the Poisson equation.
- NOTE: You do not have to know anything about physics to be able to work on this exercise. You will learn a bit about the equation by playing with the system parameters, though.

## 2. Matrix Structure.

- Look up what the commands eye, diag, spy do by typing help eye, etc. into the command window.
- Change the parameter n to  $2^3$ ,  $2^4$  and use spy(A) to understand the structure of A.

Sketch it here:		

## 3. Solving via rref.

- Uncomment the part where Ax = b is solved by row reduction and uncomment the plotting part at the very bottom. Comment the spy(A) command.
- Notice that increasing the parameter n makes the execution time longer (see what the commands tic,toc display in the command window). Report them here for  $n=2^2, 2^3, 2^4$ :
- Change the plot style from surf into mesh into contour into imagesc. Attach your favorite plot.

#### 4. Manipulating the right-hand-side b.

Change b to understand its effect on the solution.

- Change the sign of force. What happens?
- Change the magnitude of force (from -1 to -10 to -100). What happens?
- Try the following combinations with fixed n= 2<sup>4</sup>:

force	<pre>point_force</pre>	describe its effect
0	-100	
10	-100	
0	0	

- What everyday phenomenon do the plots remind you of?
- 5. Solving via inversion: Fill-in for sparse matrices.

Fix force=0 and point\_force=-10. Comment the part where the system is solved by row reduction and uncomment the part where it is solved by inversion. Run the program again for  $n = 2^2, 2^3, 2^4$  and record the times here:

Using spy , try to find out if  $A^{-1}$  is sparse. Google what *fill-in* for matrices means. How is it related to the problem here?

#### 6. Speed up through sparsity of A.

Uncomment the line A=sparse(A) and notice the speed up for  $n=2^3$  and  $n=2^4$ . Try to understand what this command does and describe the cause of the speed up briefly:

#### 7. Solving linear systems through factorization: The command $x=A\b$ .

Comment the part where the system is solved by inversion and uncomment the part where  $x=A\b$  is used. Run the program again for  $n=2^2, 2^3, 2^4$ , and notice the speed up by recording the times

and comparing to the previous times. Lookup in the online documentation of MATLAB what the command  $x=A\b$  does and give a brief explanation. Did we discuss anything related in this course?

#### 8. Testing the limits.

Try to crank up n to test the limits of your computer (careful, it might crash at some point). How high did you get? n =\_\_\_\_\_

#### 9. Result gallery.

Play around with the parameters as you wish and attach your 3 favorite plots with information on all the parameters you chose and the solution method.

# Problem II: Span of vectors, solution set of linear systems and orthogonality

# Code: II\_span.m

#### 1. Getting started.

Run the program and try to understand what it does. Change the vectors  $v_1, v_2, p$ , change the limits and step size of the weight vectors  $c_1, c_2$ . Change the color and style of the plot. Rotate the plot.

- Attach your favorite plot specifying the  $\tt v_1, \tt v_2, \tt p$  you used.
- 2. Span and solution set of linear systems.
  - Solve  $2x_1 + 2x_2 4x_3 = 0$  by hand an write the solution set in parametric form. Use the provided code to plot the solution set.
    - $x_h =$

x =

- Solve  $2x_1 + 2x_2 4x_3 = 16$  by hand an write the solution set in parametric form. Use the provided code to plot the solution set.
- 3. Orthogonality and inner product  $u^T v$ . Two vectors  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are orthogonal if

$$u^T v = u_1 v_1 + \ldots + u_n v_n = 0.$$

This type of product is so important, it has a name:  $u^T v$  is called the *inner product of* u and v. Try the following example:

• Compute the inner product of  $u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $v = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

 $u^T v =$ 

• What does this tell you about the angle between them? Sketch u and v.

#### 4. Orthogonality, inner product, cross product and normal vector of a plane.

Take a look at the equation you just solved, namely,  $2x_1 + 2x_2 - 4x_3 = 0$ . It can be written as

$$n^T x = 0, \qquad n = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2\\ -4 \end{bmatrix}, x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1\\ x_2\\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The vector n is called *normal vector* of the plane that is the solution set of this equation. Include n in the previous plot and attach it. For  $v_1, v_2$  a basis of the solution set, compute the inner products

$$n^T v_1 = \underline{\qquad},$$

$$n^T v_2 = \underline{\qquad}.$$

- What is the angle between *n* and any vector in the plane?
- Use the command  $cross(v_1,v_2)$ . What does this command? How is the result related to the plane?

# Code: III\_fitting\_data.m

#### 1. Getting started.

Run the program and try to understand what it does.

#### 2. Fitting data.

Assume you are given data points as, for instance,  $t_k, b_k$  in the code. By mere inspection of the graph of the data you might have a first idea of what the curve b that fits these data points is. You might guess, for instance,

 $b(t) = x_3t^2 + x_2t + x_1, \quad x_1, x_2, x_3 \in \mathbb{R}$  unknown coefficients,

so b is in the space of polynomials of degree 2 or less. One can use linear algebra techniques to determine  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ .

- Uncomment the fitting part of the code and run it. Try to understand what it does.
- Try to extract from the provided code the procedure and briefly describe it here.

3. Modifying the first guess.

Assume you guess instead that

 $b(t) = x_4t^3 + x_3t^2 + x_2t + x_1, \quad x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \in \mathbb{R}$  unknown coefficients.

Modify the code to determine the unknown coefficients.

$$x_1 = \_, x_2 = \_, x_3 = \_, x_4 = \_$$

#### 4. Changing the data.

Change some numbers in the data and see how the fitting is adjusting. Attach your 2 favorite plots.

5. Improving the guess.

Did our second guess really improve anything? What would have been a smarter improvement?

# Problem IV: Eigenvalues and parameters

Code: IV\_eigenvalues\_and\_parameters.m

1. Getting started.

Run the program and try to understand what it does.

2. Parameters and diagonalization. Find  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  such that A is diagonalizable.

*a* = \_\_\_\_\_.

Explain how diagonalization could fail.

3. Parameters and diagonalization in 3 dimensions.

Modify the code for the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1\\ 0 & \cos(a) & 1\\ 0 & 0 & \sin(a) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Plot all eigenvalue curves into the same plot with different styles and attach the plot.

# Problem V: Difference equations and how eigenvalues predict the future

# Code: V\_difference\_equations.m

## 1. Getting started.

- Run the program and try to understand what it does.
- 2. Eigenvalues and long-term behavior of the sequence  $x_{k+1} = Ax_k$ . Try the following values for the parameter *m*. Report what you see by sketching the plots qualitatively.

m	eigenvalues of $A$	describe what you observe
-0.5		
-0.4375		
-0.4373		
-0.4		
0.1		

Make a conjecture about the relation between the behavior of the sequence and the eigenvalues of A.

## 3. Designing a difference equation with prescribed behavior.

Design a matrix A such that it has the following eigenvalues and eigenvectors.

$$\lambda_1 = -0.5, v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \lambda_2 = 2, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1\\2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hint: Use the diagonalization formula!

 $A = \_$ 

Sketch what you expect for the initial values

[17, 17, [-0.25, 0.5], [1, -2], [17, 18],

and confirm your sketch by modifying and running the code. Attach the corresponding plot.